

THE PERILS OF GO SLOW

HOME from Burma recently, General Slim, of the gallant 14th Army, warned his fellow countrymen that they must take their coats off and roll up their sleeves to beat the Japanese. He likened the Japanese soldier to an insect—pertinacious and untiringly coming on in unbeaten waves. They were, the general said, “man-sized soldier ants with all the defects and all the qualities of ants,” and to beat them would take all the effort the British people gave to the defeat of Germany. That effort must not be relaxed.

The doctrine of hard work is the only doctrine for the British people if the war is to be brought to a victorious conclusion quickly, and if the foundations of our future prosperity are to be securely laid. That doctrine seems now to be opposed by another which is slowly spreading its poison in many areas of the national life—the doctrine of Go Slow. Everyone is aware that it has spread among the dockers handling vital food and supply lines, but its subtle and sinister influence is also being felt elsewhere, through all the avenues of the nation's life. An impression seems to prevail that now the war in the West is won Britain can afford to take things easy and await the coming of the new world with comfortable expectancy.

NOTHING is more dangerous to our national well-being and our standing among the nations. Japan is watching our effort in the war against herself and is already suggesting that we are making “only a minimum token effort.” That is a sinister suggestion, sowing seeds of distrust and suspicion between ourselves and the United States, and, indeed, throwing doubt upon every British action at the council tables of the United Nations.

Go Slow stands for selfishness and self-interest. It elevates the claims of sectional interests into the paramount place which the common good of all should occupy. Go Slow is striking a blow against a quick ending of the war in the Pacific, and impeding the efforts of the men who by land, sea, and air are still freely giving their life-blood for the

final freedom of men. There is no Go Slow for the brave men who are fighting the battles—for us all.

GENERAL SLIM's call to the British people is to make the utmost effort to finish the long fight with Japan. But that same call must be sounded continually if we are to start aright in the struggle to maintain our place among the great nations. We shall need every ounce of our native strength and courage to ensure that Britain's place among the peoples is maintained, strong and influential.

Hard work and good example alone, in every part of the national life, will earn us the continued right to speak and the honour to be heard among the nations. The policy of Go Slow is a new and doubly dangerous doctrine for the British people. It saps the strength of our energy and destroys the will to achieve new greatness. It also means that Britain will abdicate her position as a leader of the world's peoples. Hard work and good example both now and in the future will ensure Britain's prestige and position, set, as they are, on foundations created out of honest, thorough work by individuals and by the nation as a whole.

Britain must export or expire! That truth lies at the heart of our national future and it can have no alliance with the policy of Go Slow. Trade, goods, business, commerce, must flow without hindrance from these islands round the world; but Go Slow methods in workshops and in offices, on the roads and at the docks, in the council chambers and other high places, will poison the arteries of new life upon which the future of the people depends.

To send the word of Britain effectively round the world every individual in these islands must take his coat off and roll up his sleeves, determined to give his finest and best to the national life. The times call for hard work, and for a continuance of hard work. *If this nation continues to Go Slow it will lose not only the race, it will lose its greatness and its soul.*

AFRICANS AS OFFICERS

AT a recent “passing out” parade of an Officer Cadet Training Unit in Britain there was an African. He was Second Lieutenant T. K. Impraim, who is now going back to the Gold Coast to take up his new commission with his own regiment.

There will doubtless be congratulations for the new officer from Captain Seth K. Anthony, another Gold Coast, now serving with the West Africans against the Japanese in the Far East. Captain Anthony was the first African to reach commissioned rank in a combatant unit of the volunteer Royal West African Frontier Force. These

When peace comes, demobilised African soldiers will go home with valuable new experience and Army training. Not least useful to their people will be men with experience as privates, as NCOs, and finally as officers. Already Captain Anthony has heard from the Gold Coast Government that he will be welcomed as a high-ranking officer in their Civil Service.

Hawk Versus Snake

AT Port St Johns, on the Natal South Coast, there was an exciting encounter not long ago between a hawk and a cobra.

A farmer returning from his lands observed a hawk swooping down on a thorn-tree. Coiled round the branches of the tree was the cobra, a boomslang, its greenish-yellow colour making it almost invisible to a man but not to the keen-eyed hawk.

The snake reared to strike at the hawk, which swerved and flew off. But in a moment it

returned, attacked and missed, and again flew off. But in one of its lunges, the boomslang fell out of the tree, and then the hawk, dive-bombing to the ground, missed its mark and crashed senseless a few feet from where the infuriated cobra was waiting, ready to lunge again.

At that moment the farmer came on the scene and despatched the boomslang. The hawk revived after a minute or two, hobbled to a patch of sunlight, and then flew off, seemingly unhurt.

Seed Distributors

A LONDON garden from which the owner was exiled for some time during the war has yielded, in addition to weeds, some exciting results.

From seed not sown by hands have sprung up two towering, many-branched foxgloves, a magnificent great anchusa, a gorgeous Oriental poppy with seeds enough to furnish half the neighbourhood, several delphiniums, a cluster of Shirley poppies, and a veritable plague of loganberry plants. Some of the seeds from which these growths sprang may have been wind-blown, others must have been carried by birds.

It is always difficult to know what seeds will perish in the digestive tract of a bird and what will survive. A scientist, experimenting, found that from 250 plants the seeds of from 75 to 85 per cent germinated after having been eaten by thrushes, blackbirds, and robins.

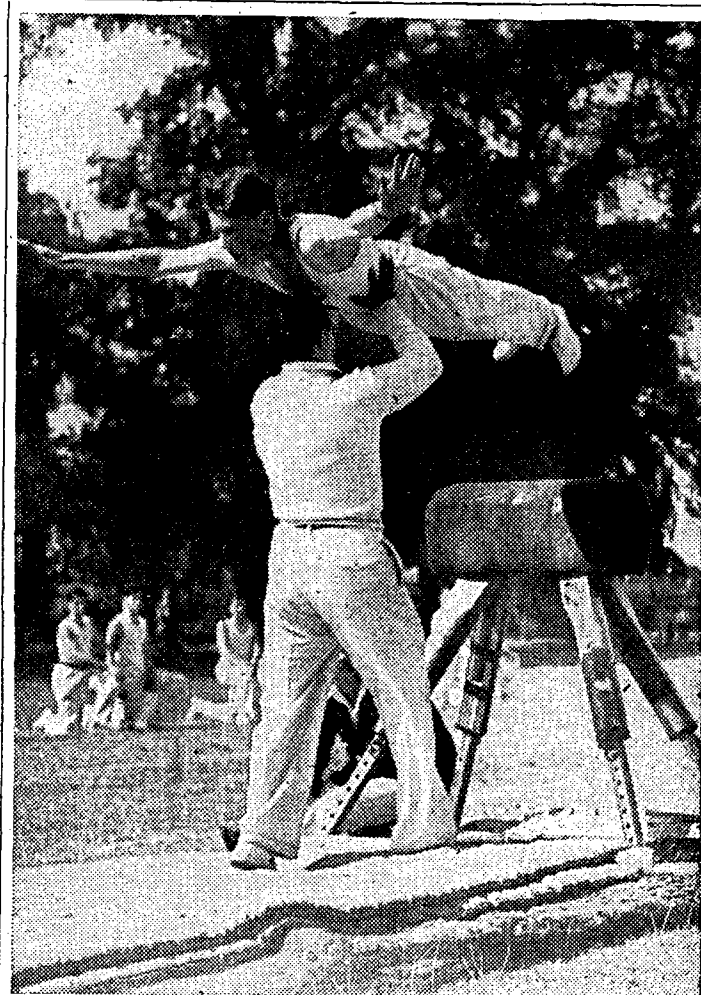
One of the strangest revelations of the kind attended the discovery by a naturalist some years ago of the remains of a wood-pigeon in a disused chalk-pit. The bird's last meal had been of broad beans, and from the crop of the bird a little harvest of beans was growing strongly.

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Perfect Poise

This naval officer-cadet of H M S Worcester, leaping over the vaulting-horse, and his instructor catching him, make a picture of acrobatic grace.

THE MAGIC IN BOOKS

WITH the sword terribly active the pen still retains its traditional superiority. A story illustrating this has been told by a newspaper correspondent lately in Warsaw.

While the fighting there was at its height last year two Poles sat in a room, one of them listening, the other reading an Edgar Wallace novel. When machine-gun bullets began to penetrate the walls the non-reader suggested that the time had come for departure. His companion answered, “Don't interrupt me, this book is so exciting!” That was indeed a compliment to an author.

Sir Walter Scott lived to learn that a reading from his poems had cheered Wellington's soldiers fighting at Torres Vedras, but he was already dead when one of the most delightful tributes was paid to his genius. James Russell Lowell, the famous American poet and author, who was once ambassador here, lay infirm and old. The end was not far off when his lifelong friend, Oliver Wendell Holmes, called on him.

“Well, James, how are you to-day?” asked the visitor. The invalid, who lay on a couch clasping a little volume in his hands, looked up with a bright smile and answered, “Wendell, I don't know how I am, and I don't care—I'm reading Rob Roy!”

There in that room, as in the one in Warsaw, a book banished the thought of death near at hand. There is on record, too, an instance of an attempt to buy death off, as it were. When a sensational work by Eugene Sue, the French author, was appearing serially in a newspaper, a well-known woman promised her doctor 20,000 francs to keep her alive just long enough to finish the last chapter. She did finish it.

Contentment

THE weekly housekeeping budget of Mrs Chifley, wife of the new Australian Prime Minister, is £3. She and her husband intend to continue living in their small house at Bathurst instead of moving into the premier's lodge at Canberra.

LABOUR AT THE HELM

FOR the first time in her history Britain has a Labour Government with a very considerable majority over all other Parties in the House of Commons.

By their free and clearly expressed will the people have given supreme power to a political party of comparatively recent growth, trusting that its leaders will steer the ship of state safely through the many national and international difficulties that have arisen and will arise as a result of the world war.

In its 26 years the C.N. has given expression to no party bias, holding that the majority of the leaders in every political party desire the achievement of what they consider the best for the well-being of their fellow-citizens and for the general welfare of the human race. We also hold, however, that our party system is a good thing, enabling us to march forward either rapidly or slowly, in one direction or another, as the freely expressed opinion of the people may desire. This free expression of the people's will is the essence of democracy, the very breath of our existence.

The recent general election, conducted throughout with a minimum of rancour, and on the whole with the good humour characteristic of our race, has established as the King's Ministers the representatives of the Labour Party in the place of the Conservative Party. For, immediately the result of the poll was known, Mr Winston Churchill placed his resignation in the hands of the King, who forthwith asked Mr Clement Attlee, the acknowledged Labour Leader, to form a new Government.

The choosing of Ministers who are to be heads of the many Government departments and who in particular are to share with himself the collective responsibility of the Cabinet is one of the most serious duties of a Prime Minister. But on this occasion Mr Attlee's task was lightened by the fact that both he and many of the re-elected Labour MPs had served Mr Winston Churchill—and served him loyally and well—in his Coalition Government. The nation, too, has learned to appreciate their devotion to the common cause.

The most important office today is that of Foreign Secretary, and Mr Ernest Bevin received

it. Mr Herbert Morrison has become Lord President of the Council and will lead the House of Commons. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is Mr Hugh Dalton; Lord Privy Seal, Mr Arthur Greenwood; President of the Board of Trade, Sir Stafford Cripps; and Lord Chancellor, Sir William Jowitt.

To the new ministers, and to the Prime Minister especially, are due the good wishes of all, for Mr Attlee has to fill the high position that Mr Winston Churchill won for himself in the councils of the Allied Powers. Mr Attlee, like his predecessor, is a man who has risen to the highest position in Parliament by his own exertions. He, in turn, is a great democrat, with a burning hatred of Nazis and Fascists and all who practise aggression.

Educated at Haileybury and Oxford, Clement Attlee studied the problems of the underprivileged at first hand by working and living in the East End of London. In 1910 he was secretary at Toynbee Hall. He served throughout the First World War, and a few months after his demobilisation became Mayor of Stepney. Elected M.P. for Limehouse in 1922, Mr Attlee held office in the first two Labour Governments and was appointed Leader of the Opposition in 1931. When the Coalition Government was formed in 1940 he became Lord Privy Seal, and later he acted as Deputy Prime Minister for Mr Churchill. Shy and un-rhetorical, the new Prime Minister holds the respect and affection of all M.P.s by his deep sincerity, his clarity of mind, his shrewd judgment, and his firmness of purpose. An Englishman of the highest type, he will quickly prove both at home and abroad that the nation's confidence in him has not been misplaced.

As to the M.P.s, over a half are newcomers, very many of them are young, some 170 are Servicemen, and 23 are women. All have great opportunities before them in their arduous task of reconstructing this country and giving—in the words of their leader—"heart to all those all the world over who believe in freedom, democracy, and social justice."

Let Justice Be Done

IN the eyes of the world Germany is an outcast nation; but what is to be the attitude towards the German people?

When General Smuts returned to South Africa from San Francisco he referred to this problem in the light of the Charter of the United Nations.

The charter, he said, will justify the drastic punishment of war-makers and war criminals of all sorts in this war. The principle of "forgive and forget" does not apply to those who have violated in the most brutal manner the essential laws of humanity. Nor does the charter forbid the breaking-up of the German State, which has been a repeated menace to world peace. This is a problem for the statesmen of Europe, and, as General Smuts says, the future of world peace or world war is bound up

with their decision. San Francisco supplies no direct guidance.

"But when it comes to ostracising and black-balling the whole German people without discrimination between guilty and innocent, the voice of the charter, as expressed in its preface, will give a very clear verdict. The higher law of humanity is there laid down in unmistakable terms. It would be a libel on the Allies, who fought for fundamental human principles and enshrined them in the charter, to expect them to behave in the Nazi way, to treat innocent people as pariahs and outcasts, to deprive them of home and livelihood, and brand them with the curse. The charter is explicit on this point."

We hope these wise words of a great world statesman will not pass unheeded.

The Allies to Japan

WITH Allied forces poised for a final mighty blow against Japan an ultimatum has been addressed to the Japanese people calling for unconditional surrender of all their armed forces.

In the names of the heads of Government of the United Kingdom, the United States, and China this dramatic call to the Japanese to save their nation from "prompt and utter destruction" was sent out from Potsdam in the heart of that Germany which was forced by its evil leaders to choose annihilation rather than listen to reason.

After warning the Japanese of the forces arrayed against them the Allied proclamation says that the time has come for Japan to decide whether she will continue to be controlled by her self-willed militaristic advisers. The terms are that these evil influences shall be removed for all time and that parts of Japan shall be occupied until such time as a new order of peace, security, and justice is established.

In the meantime, all Japanese forces shall be completely disarmed and returned to their homes with the opportunity of leading peaceful and productive lives. There is no intention to enslave the Japanese or destroy them as a nation, but stern justice will be meted out to all war criminals. Japan shall be permitted to maintain such industries as will sustain her economy and allow the exaction of just reparations in kind, but not those industries which will enable her to re-arm for war. She shall have access to, but not control of, raw materials to enable her to do this, and will eventually be permitted to participate in world trade.

These, broadly, are the conditions, and the alternative to their acceptance is a fate similar to that chosen by Germany's leaders.

The Japanese Government have disclaimed to reply to the Allied ultimatum, an attitude which cannot but make the people question the wisdom of their present rulers.

THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

GOVERNMENT is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided for by this wisdom.

Edmund Burke (1729-1797)

THE aggregate happiness of society, which is best promoted by the practice of a virtuous policy, is, or ought to be, the end of all government.

George Washington (1732-1799)

GOVERNMENT is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees; and both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people.

Henry Clay (1777-1852)

THAT is the best government which desires to make the people happy, and knows how to make them happy.

Macaulay (1800-1859)

WORLD NEWS REEL

ACCORDING to secret Nazi documents discovered by the British, German war casualties on all fronts up to November 30, 1944, were 4,064,438, of which 1,911,300 were killed or died.

Basutos in the snow-bound valleys of the Drakenberg Mountains of South Africa (where it is now winter) put out their fires so that the guiding smudge of fire of the aerodrome might be identifiable to the pilot of a plane coming to take a trader to hospital.

A memorial medal of President Roosevelt, with his likeness on one side and a mourning figure on the other, is being prepared at the Washington mint. The medal will be sold for the equivalent of five shillings.

A car factory costing one million pounds is being built by Lord Nuffield at Sydney, Australia.

The first woman diplomat of modern times, Madame Kollontay, Soviet Minister to Sweden since 1930, has asked to be relieved of her post owing to ill-health. She is 72.

The British aircraft carrier *Victorious* has been right round the world and has altogether steamed 250,000 miles since she was first commissioned in 1941.

HOME NEWS REEL

EUROPE'S Children Live Again is the title of an exhibition organised by the Save the Children Fund at 44 Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, London. It ends on August 11.

Sir Arthur Sutherland has given £50,000 to the Newcastle Dental Hospital for equipping, rebuilding, and extending the hospital.

Thorrington, an Essex village, with a population of 400, aims at raising £3500 for a Victory Village Hall.

The British jet-engine for planes was 40 per cent better than the German, according to Mr E. W. Hives, works manager of the Rolls-Royce aero-engine department. The firm intend to produce jet-propulsion engines for transport and passenger planes that will have a cruising speed of 388 to 440 m.p.h. carrying 40 to 50 passengers.

A school of porpoises came up the Thames recently as far as the Pool of London.

War Savings contributed one third of the total cost of the war to Britain up to the end of last year.

For National Rose Hip Syrup 500 tons of rose hips are needed this summer.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

THE Cornwell Scout Decoration has been awarded to 17-year-old Terence Ian Summers, of the 15th Long Eaton Group, who has suffered from severe heart trouble since birth, but has always borne his burden with fortitude.

Boy Scouts at Sarnia, Ontario, have given 1200 hours of service at the local Blood Donor Clinic. This has meant early rising every Saturday morning and the loss of much summer playtime.

Throughout the occupation of the Channel Isles the 18th Jersey Brig-ydon Handicapped Scout Troop managed to keep up regular meetings and their "underground" scouting. One of their activities during the food shortage was to collect a certain seaweed from which an excellent jelly was made.

INCLUDED in the fabric of the Presbyterian church being built at Stamford, Connecticut, will be a stone from St Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

The Philippines will become an extensive base for forthcoming operations in the Pacific. Lieut-General W. D. Styer, commander of the US Western Pacific Forces, in announcing this, compared the Philippines base with Britain when it was the base for the invasion of Europe.

A recent heat wave in Vienna was so intense that schools were closed.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of South East Asia Command, visited Potsdam recently to confer with Allied leaders.

The submarine HMS *Shakespeare*, now safe in a British port, fought off 25 Japanese air attacks while she had shellholes in her side and was thus unable to dive.

It has been announced from Admiral Nimitz's Headquarters in the Pacific area that 19 of Japan's biggest cities, including Tokyo, have been more than half destroyed by Allied air raids, and that the great enemy naval base at Kure is seven-tenths in ruins.

THE pleasure boat *Skylark*, which evacuated nearly 1400 men from Dunkirk in 23 journeys, has returned to Brighton beach to give trips to holiday-makers.

A fountain pen which only needs filling once a year is being manufactured in Britain. The pen, which has a stylographic point, was invented during the war for use by pilots flying at great heights, where ordinary fountain pens fail.

The Federation of British Industries has sponsored a Research Committee, under the chairmanship of Sir William Larke, to maintain a close partnership between industry and science. Four Fellows of the Royal Society are on the Committee.

To help women students of universities in liberated countries to resume their studies, the British Federation of University Women is making an appeal for £25,000.

At Shrivenham, Berkshire, is an American Army University Centre, where soldiers will take two months' refresher courses before returning home.

The Education Committee of the L.C.C. recommend that all London's primary and secondary schoolchildren should have equal holidays of 12 weeks a year.

The Polish General, Bor-Komorowski, recently paid a high tribute to the Polish Boy Scouts for the way they carried on during the German occupation with educational work, ambulance services, signals, newspaper distribution, and so on.

At their pavement office in High Street between 10 a.m. and noon every Saturday, Eastleigh Scouts accept parcel-carrying commissions from shoppers, the small fees charged being sent to help Scout Troops in Belgium and other countries.

During the German occupation of the Channel Islands Boys Brigade companies duly carried on with their Bible class and other indoor activities, in spite of the Gestapo and other difficulties.

BRASS BANDS IN PAPUA

SALUTE Lieut David Crawley, a Londoner, who, since he joined the New Guinea police in 1935, has trained two native bands in Papua to such a standard that they can play a selection of marches and other compositions—not on tomtoms, but on proper brass instruments. These native bandsmen have learned to read the band music, too.

One of these Royal Papuan Constabulary bands recently visited Australia with Lieut Crawley as bandmaster. The Worshipful Company of Musicians has paid Lieut Crawley the unusual compliment of sending to him from London the company's silver medal, in recognition of his fine work.

DONE TO THE SECOND

A NEW way of electric cooking has been discovered in America, which, it is claimed, will enable the housewife to roast a joint in a little over a minute, boil potatoes in seconds, and hard-boil an egg in a fraction of a second.

Another feature of this new cooking is that it allows for precise timing, charts showing clearly the number of seconds, or fractions of a second, required for different dishes. The apparatus can be set and will switch itself off at the right moment.

FIRE!

DRIPPED cigarette ends and lighted matches have caused serious fires to farm property and produce, state the Ministry of Agriculture in an appeal to people living in the country, and asks them to take every precaution to protect crops which will be so vital to this country next winter.

MAP MAKERS

THE Midland Ramblers' Association has sold 3500 footpath maps on a scale of three inches to the mile.

Members made maps of Warwickshire by reducing the six-inch sheets of the Ordnance Survey to half their scale, adding any public paths not marked, and omitting unnecessary detail. A start is being made on maps of all Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, and South Staffordshire, and instructions are being printed for clubs elsewhere who would like to make their own maps.

The Port of London in Wartime

AN exhibition has been opened which is of special interest to boys and girls, for it tells, in pictures, photographs, models, and original exhibits, the proud wartime story of the great Port of London.

Through this mighty port, which operates from Teddington to the Nore lightship, no less than 106,500,000 tons of shipping passed between September, 1939, and May, 1945. For the invasion of Europe alone, shipping to the amount of 23,000,000 tons was dealt with.

Models of the Mulberry ports are on exhibit, three-quarters of the concrete work of the great harbour having been undertaken in the Port of London. Models of the sea forts of the Thames

ON each westward crossing of the Atlantic the giant liner Queen Mary is taking home 14,000 U.S. troops. Just a century ago interest was centred on the Atlantic journey of 60 people.

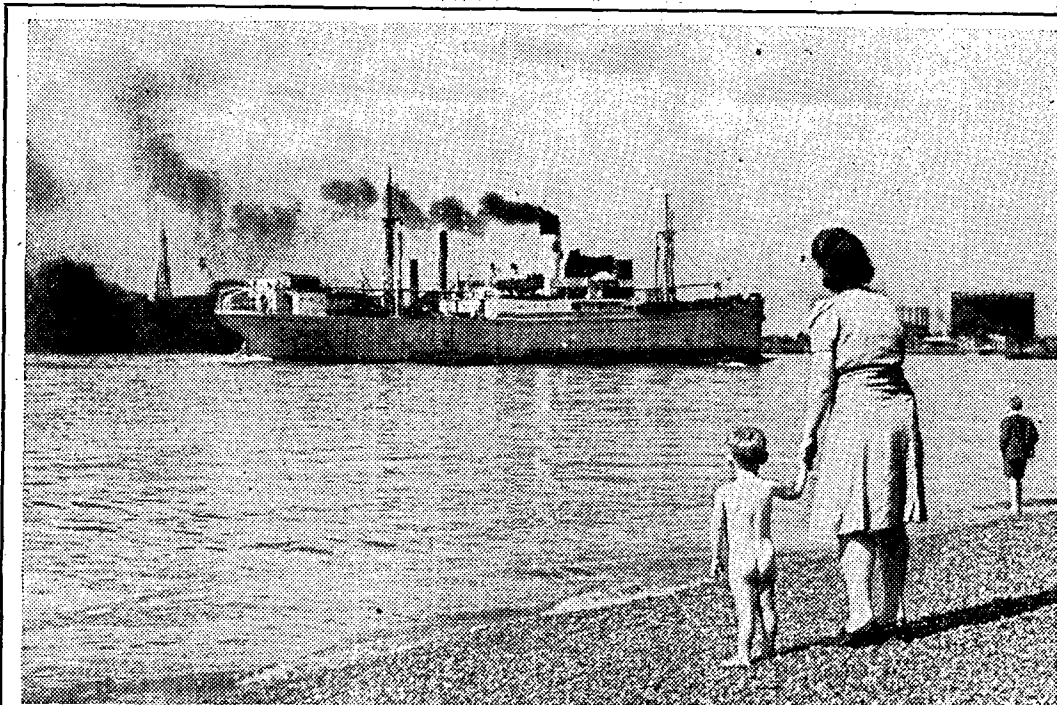
At that time the trans-Atlantic steamship had already proved successful, and the Great Western Steamship Company was anxious to have a vessel on the most up-to-date lines. The screw-propeller had just proved its superiority over the paddle-wheel, and Brunel, the company's engineer, saw the great advantages of an all-iron screw-driven vessel of some size, and designed one that was to be more than 300 feet long.

This project was considered so tremendous that the public condemned the idea right away and no contractor would undertake the building of such a vessel. But the company's directors, with full confidence in Brunel, were undaunted and installed their own plant.

Work on the new ship began in 1843, at Bristol, and in January, 1845, the Great Britain, as she was named, made her first trip. This was to London, and her arrival at Blackwall caused tremendous excitement. During the five months the Great Britain was in London Queen Victoria visited her. A trip to Liverpool prepared the ship for

the Atlantic crossing, and on July 26, 1845, the Great Britain, with about 60 passengers, left the Mersey. On August 10 she reached New York, the 14 days 21 hours' crossing being made at the average speed of 9½ knots; but her 1500 h.p. engines had been worked at only 600 h.p.

The journey had proved successful and the confidence in Brunel and the Steamship Company was justified. The Great Britain became the first all-iron screw-propelled vessel to cross the Atlantic. In her wake steam the giants Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth, three times as long and twenty times as heavy.



London's Own Beach

This stretch of beach is on the Thames at Greenwich, near the Pool of London. Here Londoners can bathe, paddle, and watch the big ships go by—as this young bather is doing.

MULES AS PARACHUTISTS

GETTING supplies up to our troops in Burma is a tremendous problem, especially in steep and dangerous country.

To help to overcome these difficulties, an experiment has been tried, and successfully, too, of dropping mules by parachute, to reinforce advanced supply lines.

Seven of these airborne mules wear parachute wings on the brow-band of their head collars—a proud distinction, though they may not appreciate it.

NEW OBSERVATORIES

SIR H. SPENCER JONES, Astronomer Royal, who recently visited Russia, has stated in an article in the Sunday Times that the observatory at Pulkova, on the outskirts of Leningrad, which is the counterpart of our Greenwich Observatory, was completely destroyed during the siege.

The observatory at Simels, in the Crimea, was also destroyed, but wantonly, by the Germans. Other Russian observatories were also destroyed or seriously damaged.

But, writes Sir Spencer, Russia is planning to replace Pulkova, Simels, and other observatories by new and better buildings and equipment. Reconstruction of some of them, indeed, has already begun, for scientific reconstruction has a very high priority in Russia.

UNITED YOUTH

WALLASEY Council School was recently the scene of a miniature United Nations conference when boys and girls of Britain, U.S.A., Brazil, Africa, China, Egypt, and Czecho-Slovakia met to discuss problems relating to youth. The conference, which lasted a week, was organised by Wallasey Youth Council, who paid each delegate £1 towards expenses. Fares were paid by the groups taking part and accommodation was provided by Wallasey members.

HEARD BUT NOT SEEN

WHAT gifts and powers very young children believe their seniors to possess!

The other day a tiny boy was permitted to speak on the telephone for the first time to his grandmother. "Hallo, granny, how are you? How do you like my new suit?" he excitedly exclaimed. "What new suit?" asked his grandmother. "Why, the one I am wearing now," he replied, just a little peevishly.

By Any Name A Pest

POINTING the other day to the yellow ruins of what had been a fine border of choice nasturtiums, a London gardener said to his visitor, "It's those wretched black greenfly that have done it!"

The Ministry of Agriculture has already seven names for this pest, but every man has others more expressive of his feelings. The parasite is a black variety of the group of insects that we term greenfly, and many people call it blackfly. The Ministry calls it Bean Aphis, giving it its scientific title of Aphis rumicis. In its official publication on the subject it unbends and describes it by such widely-used names as Black Aphis, Black

HOW MUCH CAN A PIGEON CARRY?

A PIGEON can carry three photographic films five inches by four, or twenty pictures taken on 35 millimetre miniature film. The latter is the size of film used in the well-known Leica and other miniature cameras. These are packed in a capsule which is fitted to a harness which the bird wears.

Experiments carried out at Fort Sam Houston have shown that average-sized carrier pigeons can take the pictures thirty miles in three quarters of an hour, and that planes when travelling 200 miles an hour and flying at a height of 31,000 feet can safely release the birds with their film loads.

THE NEW CORSAIR

THE new American Corsair fighter plane, described by marine pilots as "one of the most powerful single-seater fighters in the world," is enabled by special inverted gull-type wings to crash-land into the sea without injury.

This aircraft is an improved version of earlier Corsair designs and will operate from aircraft carriers as a fighter or bomber. It carries six machine-guns in the wings and a bomb-load of 2000 lbs, and is said to have a speed of 425 m.p.h.

ON THE 8.29

MR THOMAS CLEGG, of Bramhall in Cheshire, has set up an unusual local record.

For 63 years Mr Clegg has caught the same train, the 8.29, to Manchester. He has never missed it in all those years and has always sat in the corner of the same compartment. He has spent £800 in fares.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OVER 50

THE Preston cycling club named Autumn Tints, of which we have written before and which insists on its members being over 50 and either bald or grey, has just celebrated its 21st anniversary.

This quaint club was founded in 1924 by Mr Tom Hughes of Wigan, who, at 79, still cycles 10,000 miles a year. But Mr Hughes, though the founder, is by no means the oldest Autumn Tint; that honour belongs to Mr A. Cave of Ellesmere Park, who is 82, and began his cycling some 67 years ago on a solid-tyred bone-shaker.

Dolphin, Black Army, Black Blight, and Collier.

By whatever name it is called this little sable insect, which can be full-grown at the end of a week, and reproduces with horrifying rapidity, is an evil pest. It drains the sap of broad beans, runner beans, mangolds, rhubarb, turnips, spinach, poppies, dahlias, nasturtiums, and many other cultivated growths.

It attacks many wild plants as well, and the plague spreads from these growths to cultivated crops and flowers.

The greenfly plague is rampant again this year, and the best thing to do is to read the Ministry of Agriculture's publication on fighting the nuisance.

August 11, 1945

The Children's



A Happy Channel-Islander

This pretty Jersey milkmaid, Dulcie De La Haye, seen here with two of her mother's pedigree herd, has worked with her sister and mother keeping their farm going through all the long, dark period of Nazi occupation.

THE REFRESHING MORNING DRAUGHT

MANY a man has started out for his day's work more happily because, having opened his copy of The Times, he has elected to ignore the news and has turned instead to the Fourth Leader—the one place where he could be sure of finding cheerfulness creeping in.

One of the most recently published Penguin Books (it is, we imagine, no coincidence that its number is 444) affords a rare banquet of no fewer than 44 4th Leaders rescued from the vasty caverns of The Times files.

These are the kind of little essays that everyone would wish to be able to write. A delightful friendliness and fellow-feeling pervades them, a fragrant everydayness and simplicity; but it is a simplicity that conceals a consummate artistry.

It is in revealing the humour of the commonplace, of ordinary experience, that these essays excel. In "Ordeal by Thermometer," for instance, is a delightful sample of this quality: "If a man desired as far as possible to extend his life, so that the minutes should stretch

into hours, and the hours into eternity, he should spend all his waking time in sucking a thermometer." That is humour that we can all appreciate because it is but a playful exaggeration of an experience common to all frail mankind.

But there also is the authentic Elian note. Throughout this little book runs that same deftness and lightness; throughout it runs the gentle, wistful humour of one who has found supreme happiness in the company of Charles Lamb and William Hazlitt, of Charles Dickens and Jane Austen, and with rich gleanings from a bounteous memory is able to reflect something of their magic, allied to a charm and urbanity all his own.

One day, we hope, their author will shed his mantle of anonymity and receive the plaudits due to one who, day in day out, provides a refreshing morning draught. Meanwhile, he must be a happy man to find his essaylets, as he calls them, written to beguile a few morning minutes, gathered into a sheaf for an evening's delectation.

Garrick's Mulberry Tree

WHAT was once the home of David Garrick, the great actor of the eighteenth century, still looks proudly over the River Thames at Hampton. In the lovely garden of that house there is a mulberry tree, about two hundred years old, which David Garrick, or possibly his widow, planted from a cutting taken from Shakespeare's garden at Stratford-on-Avon. It was a happy link between the Bard of Avon and the great David, who excelled in Shakespearean parts.

The other day a CN correspondent found, when visiting Garrick's old garden, that the mulberry tree which, despite its great age, was laden with ripening, luscious fruit, had been struck by lightning during a recent storm. The damage to the main part of the tree was so severe that its days, it seems, are

numbered. When its present owner picks the delicious fruit very shortly, it will be for the last time, and so a link with the past will disappear.

But there remain still, adds our correspondent, the buildings which belonged to Garrick, and the underground passage from the grounds to the river. This passage, fashioned in grotto style, was built under the main highway to Hampton Court at the suggestion of the great Dr Johnson, a lifelong friend of David Garrick. When considering means of approach from his house to the river, Garrick said to the doctor that he did not want to overdo things. "Very well," replied Johnson with his ready wit, "it had better be underdone." And so, the underground passage, came to be built.

Young in Heart

A correspondent sends us this account of his visit to an old gentleman on his 90th birthday.

His face was all smiles as he peered over the gates of yesterday, and incidents of earlier years crowded in upon his brain.

He never went to school, he said, and he was apprenticed to a tailor when he was only 12 years old. During those days he met a maiden and often carried a heavily-laden errand basket home for her a mile and a half across the fields. She was a lady's maid. "You'll write to me, won't you?" she said when the time came for her to go away. "Yes," he promised, too ashamed to tell her that he could neither read nor write.

So he appealed to a friend who could write. "I told him what to say, and he put it all down. Then I copied it, word for word. So you see I did write my own letter after all!"

He learned to read and to write after that. And he married the lady's maid although he was earning only 4½d an hour as a tailor. She helped him to build up his own business, and it developed and prospered for 50 years and more.

"Can you give me a recipe for long and happy life?" I asked.

"Always keep young in heart," was the ready response. That was his secret—the secret that brought contentment and happiness, and filled him with the joy of living. Non-smoker, teetotaler, all through the busy years he held fast to the Sunday School and the Church of his youth. Even when he retired from business at 70 there was no time to be idle, grumpy, or miserable, for he still found many interests in life—his home, his Sunday School, his Church, his garden. He scorned growing old when there was so much to do and to think about.

Why, he is so active, so strong in heart and spirit, that he has done all his own gardening again this year. On the eve of reaching ninety not out, he tilled a row of beans in his garden and mowed the grass on his lawn.

Young in heart! On his birthday, as upright as a soldier, he walked to Church, nearly half a mile away, to make his Sabbath devotions. He read his Bible that day, too, and enjoyed his birthday tea like a child because he was still young in heart!

TEACHERS AS INVENTORS

IN addition to giving technical instruction to their pupils, teachers of the City of London School of Photo Engraving and Lithography devoted themselves during wartime to trying to discover new scientific devices in aid of the war effort—and they were successful.

In a recent report to the LCC Education Committee, it was stated that these teachers produced two outstanding inventions. One was the perfection of a method of photographing direct on metal. The other was the production of "eyes" for the RAF gyro-gunsight, so deadly in its use against flying bombs, as well as enemy aircraft.

EDITOR'S TABLE

The Housing Drive

IT was a happy idea to make General Sir Frederick Pile director-general of the Ministry of Works, and so put him virtually in charge of the nation's housing.

At the opening of a housing exhibition recently, this distinguished soldier said that the provision of houses must be regarded as of the quality of a military operation. He pointed out that the present programme of 450,000 houses in two years was nine to ten times as many houses as were built in the first two years after the war of 1914-18.

Sir Frederick is right. The urgency of homes for the people is no less than it was for planes, tanks, guns, and other weapons required to defeat the enemy.

Sir Frederick Pile is a man who gets things done. If the people, the Government, industry, and labour will back him up, the greatest task of post-war Britain will be accomplished.

Russia and Her Scientists

WE learn that, if a Russian scientist is the equivalent of a Fellow of the Royal Society, he can get four rooms and many times the rations of the ordinary civilian.

This was revealed by Professor Eric K. Rideal, FRS, at a recent gathering of chemists, as an illustration of the importance which Soviet Russia attaches to her men of science, and particularly to research workers.

While it is not necessary for Britain to give encouragement in these ways to those who pursue scientific investigations, she can, and should, encourage them in many another way.

The world's future depends very largely on scientists. They hold the keys of progress.

CARRY ON

Children Enlarge the Heart

GOD sends children for another purpose than merely to keep up the race—to enlarge our hearts, to make us unselfish and full of kindly sympathies and affections; to give our souls higher aims, and to call out all our faculties to extend enterprise and exertion; to bring round our fireside bright faces and happy smiles, and loving, tender hearts. My soul blesses the Great Father every day, that He has gladdened the earth with little children.

Mary Howitt

WHEN?

ALL! When shall all men's good Be each man's rule, and universal Peace Lie like a shaft of light across the land?

Tennyson

A WORLD

AUGUST Bank Holiday, the crown of the summer season, has come once more, the last of our national holidays until Christmas again gives the signal for normal work to cease.

In Britain we are more fortunate than most countries in the number of our national holidays. But the CN would like to see established a day on which the whole world simultaneously made holiday, a day proclaimed as a world festival in every country. Already many South American countries keep holiday on Independence Day in compliment to the United States, and some similarly honour France on her National Day, July 14. These neighbourly acts contain the germ of a new idea for the world's life—a holiday for all mankind on one day in the year.

This holiday act of friendship might become the symbol of all the peoples in the United Nations, a day on which their pledge of comradeship and united action to prevent war could be renewed year by year. This day would be one of popular dedication to the cause of world peace and friendship, so

Under the E

A LONDON butcher says his motto has always been, Give the housewife a chance. She would rather have a joint.

DEMOB Rates for Navy, says a headline. To help out the rations?

SOME animals seem able to tell the time. Certain dogs are trained to keep a watch.

WOMEN announcers on the BBC are to slay. Because they make things go.

PETER I WANTS KNO



If a comb parting

Deep in t

LIKE two cathedral towers these stately pines Uplift their fretted summits tipped with cones; The arch beneath them is not built with stones, Not Art but Nature traced these lovely lines, And carved this graceful arabesque of vines; No organ but the wind here sighs and moans, No sepulchre conceals a martyr's bones,

TRUE RE

IF any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

For he beholdeth himself, and seeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of

HOLIDAY

that year by year the sacrifice of the past would be acknowledged not only by remembrance but by a renewal of faith in the permanence of peace.

Let there be a name for this day which would strike a chord in the hearts of the world's peoples—United Nations' Day, Humanity Day, Democracy Day, of just Pax. We should like to see the idea a reality in the new Charter now before all the nations for ratification. It would appeal to the world's peoples and give them their chance of showing how much they appreciate the dawning of a new day in mankind's affairs.

Stimulus of Colour

IN a recently-issued industrial welfare report by the Post Office Engineering Union it is suggested that machinery normally painted black or neutral grey should be repainted in right pastel shades. Coloured machinery in factories, it is argued, will stimulate output.

We are thinking of making an experiment in a small way by presenting our typists with handsome, bright green typewriters.

Editor's Table

LUCK TO V LONDONERS will find abundant grounds for pride in the Port of London exhibition. London pride?

A MAN who manned a lightship has written his story. Should be an illuminating book.

A NURSE is said to have drawn the praise of a general. Must be a skilful artist.

ONE housewife declared that she doesn't mind queues. Others think they are hard lines.

The Forest

No marble bishop on his tomb reclines.
Enter! the pavement, carpeted with leaves,
Gives back a softened echo to thy tread!
Listen! the choir is singing; all the birds,
In leafy galleries beneath the eaves,
Are singing! Listen, ere the sound be fled,
And learn there may be worship without words. *Longfellow*

RELIGION

The work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. *St James*

Mutual Loaning of Pictures

WHEN, a few weeks ago, there was an exhibition at the National Gallery in London of pictures acquired by the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, we suggested it would be a good thing if people in provincial cities could in their turn see some of the National Gallery's masterpieces.

Now we are happy to report that 41 Old Masters of the 17th Century Dutch School, lent by the National Gallery and the National Trust, are on a tour of the Provinces. The pictures are worth over £300,000 and are travelling in a specially designed motor-van. Among them are four paintings by Rembrandt and others by Hobbema, Franz Hals, and Cuyp.

It is a splendid start. May it lead to all our great towns joining in that "great mutual loaning" of pictures which we advocated.

BROKEN GLASS

THE Thames Conservancy Board, who are responsible for the Thames from Teddington to its source, are receiving complaints of foot injuries due to broken bottles.

The cause of this trouble is that some people carelessly throw into the river bottles (or broken bits of them), tidying up after a picnic, perhaps, but little realising the danger.

The same thing is happening in other rivers of the country.

We appeal, therefore, to all who frequent our river banks to refrain from indulging in this dangerous practice, which can only bring pain and suffering to all who paddle or swim in the shallow water by the river banks.

JUST AN IDEA

As the Persian maxim goes, the wise man is he who learns of all men.

The English Way

THE English game is main force to main force, the planting of foot to foot, fair play and open field; a rough tug without trick or dodging, till one or both comes to pieces. They hate craft and subtlety. They neither poison, nor waylay, nor assassinate; and when they have pounded each other to a pulp they will shake hands and be friends for the remainder of their lives.

Emerson

AKIN

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster. *Proverbs*

Husbanding of Time

LET us be greedy of our time; let us give up none of our moments without having received good value for it. Let us use the fleeting hours with thrift and fruitfulness, and let us not suffer a single day to pass without enlarging our treasure of knowledge and virtue. *Le Tourneur*

A Charter For Youth

No man in this country has wider business, commercial, and administrative experience than Lord Woolton. He is the living embodiment of the man who gets things done.

Lord Woolton, chairman of the Governors of Manchester Grammar School, gave the boys what he called a "charter for the youth of today" when he presented the prizes at the school recently.

"Britain is a great industrial country," said Lord Woolton. "It grew rich in the past by enterprise, by experiment, and by prodigious hard work. Those are the qualities we want today."

"To the boys of the school I say: Look for adventure in your life rather than security; be bold in your dreams of what you might do for your country, as bold as were your brothers, who won the Battle of Britain, as valiant as were the Desert Rats who fought against adversity, as heroic and self-sacrificing as the men of Arnhem."

"Be worthy of your race, and together working in the harmonious effort of adventurous enterprise you will restore the breath of Britain, recapture its lost trade, and so create the Commonwealth in which all may share and from which all will benefit."

"The need of the day is a spiritual as well as economic reconstruction. Great opportunities await this present generation, and I beg them to grasp them with both hands. A new world is in the making."

TAKING WORK TO THE WORKERS

SIR PHILIP WARTER, the Board of Trade's Controller-General of factory and storage premises, has stated what the Government are doing to "take work to the workers."

"We have the golden opportunity to cure, once and for all, the scourge of unemployment in the areas," he said; and by "the areas" he meant the old distressed areas, such as the north-east of England, South Wales, Cumberland, and parts of Scotland, whose people suffered so badly between the two world wars.

Eleven new trading estates, including converted Royal Ordnance factories, are planned. With nine already in being, these will make twenty trading estates in all, giving employment to 100,000 people. The new trading estates will be at South Shields, Hartlepool, Aycliffe, Spennymoor, Swansca, Hirwaun (South Wales), Bridgend, Newhouse (Lanarkshire), Greenock and Port Glasgow, Dundee, and Workington.

Sir Philip explained that this is in addition to what private enterprise is doing or contemplating, subject, of course, to the new Distribution of Industry Act.

Industry will thus be sited where the workers are and live. The housing problem depends very largely upon this, for even if up-to-date houses have to be set up in place of old-fashioned and unhealthy ones the basic requirements of housing are already in existence in these populous areas.

COMPACT LITTLE BELGIUM

THE knotty problem concerning the abdication of King Leopold III has disturbed the newly-found peace of Belgium, and brought that country once more into the news.

Belgium did not become an independent state until 1830; for fifteen years previously the kingdom had formed part of the Netherlands. The first King of the Belgians was Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, elected by National Congress in 1831. In 1865 he was succeeded by his son Leopold II, who founded the Congo Free State, the colony in central Africa known to us as the Belgian Congo. His successor was his nephew Albert, who became the father of Leopold III.

In Belgium's early years as an independent state it became apparent that for the cause of European peace she should be a permanently neutral kingdom. So at a conference of the European Powers the Treaty of London—the "Scrap of Paper"—was signed on April 19, 1839, by Austria, France, Prussia, The Netherlands, Russia, and Great Britain, and the neutrality of Belgium was guaranteed. But on August 2, 1914, Germany violated the treaty by invading Belgium.

In May, 1940, Belgium was again invaded by Germany. After gallant resistance by Belgian, French, and British troops, King Leopold capitulated. The kingdom was occupied by the Nazis until September, 1944, when they were driven from the country by the Allies.

Belgium is a constitutional monarchy very similar to our own and has a Parliament of two Houses—the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives, who are elected every four years. Unlike our own, her Constitution is a written one. The laws include ancient privileges and rights.

Belgium has a frontier of 331 miles, and a short coastline washed by the North Sea. The rivers Meuse and Sambre divide the country into two distinct areas. The landscape, save in the well-wooded Ardennes district, is flat and fertile, and agriculture is one of the chief interests, producing potatoes, sugar beet, hops, and flax in large quantities.

Industrially, Belgium is very important. Collieries and quarries are in the districts around Liège,

Namur, and Brabant, and the principal minerals yielded are coal, zinc, lead, and iron. Glass and textiles of various kinds are produced in Verviers and Ghent, while Mechlin, Brussels, and Bruges are famous for lace.

A network of canals link up these manufacturing towns and add to their importance.

Brussels, the capital, has often, because of its beautiful buildings, been acknowledged a second Paris. Boulevards on the site of the old fortifications encircle the city, and add to its charm. In the Grande Place is the Hotel de Ville. Here was held the ball on the eve of Waterloo, immortalised by Byron in his "Childe Harold."

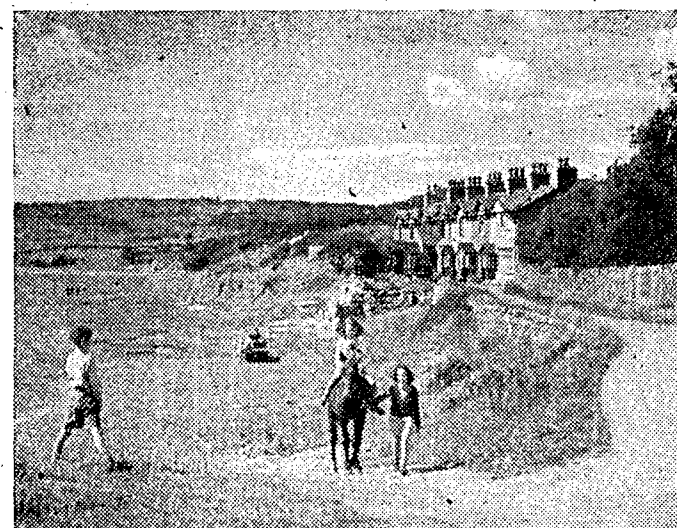
Brussels has sufficient room in her docks on the Antwerp-Vilvorde Canal to take ships of considerable tonnage; but it is, of course, Antwerp itself which has contributed most of all to the prosperity of the country.

The inhabitants of Belgium are of Germanic stock and Latin stock; the dialects are spoken only in the provinces, and everywhere the educated classes speak French. Modest and hard-working, they are a sociable and peace-loving people. As we sympathise with them in their present troubles we recall the words of Henri Pirenne, Belgium's foremost historian: "Belgium's unity derives not from community of race as in Germany, not from the central power of a hereditary monarchy as in England, but from the unity of social life."

Restoring Milan Cathedral

SIGNOR ZACCHI, architect-in-charge of Milan Cathedral, is replacing the cathedral's stained-glass windows for the second time in his service—the first being after the last war. Some of the cathedral's glass was made in 1404.

The Duomo, as the cathedral is known, is the third largest church in Europe (St Peter's, Rome, is the largest and Seville Cathedral next). It can hold 40,000 people, and is 356 feet high. During this war it sustained some bomb damage and 40 of its 3500 famous statues were destroyed.



THIS ENGLAND A holiday scene at Silverdale at the head of Morecambe Bay

IONA LIVES AGAIN

ON St Columba's isle, Iona, off the west coast of Scotland, builders have been restoring the old abbey on the site where St Columba lived in the sixth century.

They have not been ordinary builders. No one has subscribed a large sum of money to rebuild the ancient ruin. There has been no spectacular restoration. The work will go on for years yet as a symbol of the restoration of a vigorous Christian faith in the northern parts of our islands. Like Columba before them, the modern restorers believe in both work with the hands and worship.

The builders have been young men from the theological colleges of Scotland, older men from the crafts and trades—a mixed fellowship of men with brains, manual dexterity, and vision. The vision is the lively attack of the Christian faith on the pagan forces of our time. As the men have hewn the stone and spread the mortar for the abbey walls, so they have been relaying in practice as well as faith the basis of a militant Christianity.

During the summer months the men have lived in their community on Iona. In the winter months they have shared in the parish work in the cities of Scotland alongside the workers in factories and offices.

Dr George McLeod, the leader of the Iona experiment, realised that restoring Iona would be a symbolic gesture towards restoring a lively Christianity in Scotland. He wants Iona to be a laboratory of thought and practical expression of how the Christian faith may be lived in times like these. On the sacred isle of Columba in the blue western sea, groups of people have worked on the abbey, and, at the same time, debated how they might change the world. But, like Columba, they have not

stayed on Iona. They have gone into the towns and cities of Scotland to carry the Christian message.

Ministers (who normally join for two years immediately after leaving their Divinity Halls) go forth two by two to work, within the parish system, under the minister of the chosen parish. Thereafter they become absorbed in the normal ministry.

On the mainland these teams of two experiment how the same essential principles of their island community can be conveyed to the Church as she exists. The congregation where they work is now, for them, the community. Experiments have been made, and, in spite of the restricting effect of the war, are continuing in housing schemes, in the central church of a country town, in a previously closed downtown church now refashioned by the Youth Committee of the church as a centre of youth work, and so on.

There are scattered all over the world today 5000 friends of Iona, who are sharing in the vision of Columba's isle and spreading its message of "work and worship."

Aluminium For Ships

THE CN has already mentioned aluminium trains. This metal is also being used to lighten and brighten new British ships. A vessel being fitted out on Clyde-side has aluminium pillars which can be used as ventilators. By switching a lever hot or cold air is wafted into rooms.

Aluminium is a metal that can be dyed, and as the hues are protected by a hard film they are fadeless in sea air or in contact with acids.

BEDTIME CORNER

The Signpost

"I MUST go over to Beechcroft," said Mother, one morning. "A poor family there is in great distress—four little children and a sick father."

"What will you take them?" asked practical Charles.

"Warm clothes for the children and some comforts for the invalid," replied Mother. "I will pack a basketful, and perhaps you would like to come with me."

The children thought that a very nice plan, and were disappointed when Mother remembered an engagement for that afternoon.

"Perhaps we could go by ourselves," suggested Helena. "I don't suppose Mummy will give us a basket of food, but there's five shillings in my money-box, and I could take the muffler I knitted."

So that afternoon they started, with Helena's five shillings, the muffler, and two apples and slices of cake they had been given that morning.

Presently they saw a signpost, and Helena's heart sank when Charles read: "Beechcroft, five miles."

"Is it really as much as that?" she faltered.

"We must have walked three miles already," answered Charles stoutly. "Come along."

Helena trotted after her brother, but one of her heels was sore with the rubbing of her shoe. Soon she burst into tears and sat down by the roadside.

"Oh, Charles!" she sobbed. "Let us go home."

Charles sat down, too. It seemed a pity to give up their plan, but— A car came round the bend, slowing down when the driver recognised the forlorn pair.

"Hop in!" said Daddy. "What are you doing so far from home?"

Charles explained. "But Beechcroft lies in the opposite direction," he said. Just then they passed the signpost to which Charles pointed eagerly.

Daddy laughed. "Learn to read correctly," he said, "before you venture out alone again. The signpost says BEECHGROVE."

The children agreed it would be better to wait to go with Mother, and Charles determined to pay more attention in future at his spelling lessons!

Water For Health

WATER, plain water, is the subject of a recent article in The Lancet. Certain elements in water, in small quantities, are important for health, and the writer discusses three of these elements—calcium, iodine, and fluorine.

Hard water, he states, will supply about a fifth of our daily requirements of lime, while vegetables cooked in hard water will increase the amount of calcium we take into our bodies. Those who like the smoothness of soft water should remember that hard water is better for drinking.

Lack of iodine is known to be responsible for certain types of goitre. Some local water sources in England, he says, are rich in iodine; others are deficient.

Too much fluorine in water may, it appears, cause dental disease, but the right quantity probably helps to secure sound teeth.

The new Water Act has placed upon the Minister of Health the duty of ensuring that every householder in this country shall have an adequate water supply. His Central Advisory Water Committee must see to it that not only enough water, but water of a quality which is best for health, is provided.

MONTGOMERY HOUSE

THE new YMCA hostel at Whalley Range, Manchester, which is to accommodate 140 men and will cost about £40,000, is to be called Montgomery House; for a member of the YMCA Board returned from London recently with a circular relating to the new hostel, and at the foot of it was written: "I would be very glad if this hostel were known as Montgomery House.—B. L. Montgomery, Field-Marshal, 17/6/45."

One of the first guests at the new hostel may be the field-marshal's only son, David, now 16, and studying at Winchester. When he leaves school he is to train as an engineer in Manchester.

The hostel will cater for young men from all over the world, who are expected to visit Manchester as a great training centre for textiles and engineering. Several well-known business firms have already signified their willingness to support the £40,000 fund for the hostel.

Historic N Z Flag

A TATTERED silk flag of unfamiliar design was recently presented to a museum in Wanganui, New Zealand. It is the historic "Moutoa" flag which for many years had been in possession of a Maori family.

The flag was presented in 1865 to a chief, Metekingi, after loyal Maoris had driven off a Maori war-party at the Battle of Moutoa, in 1864, thus saving the white settlers from attack. In appreciation of the loyalty of the Maoris the white women of Wanganui and two other districts made this flag, which cost £20. It is of white silk with a Union Jack in the upper corner, and in the centre is a gilt crown below which are two clasped hands, pakeha (white) and Maori. Underneath is the word "Moutoa," the island on to which the invaders were driven.



Making History

These young people of the Severn-side village of Deerhurst are compiling their own history, with drawings, of their Saxon village church, believed to be the oldest church in the country. They are here making a study of its ancient font.

PLAN FOR A NEW ROAD ORGANISATION

THE Standing Joint Committee of the Royal Automobile Association, and the Royal Scottish Automobile Club have recommended the appointment of a Board of Highway Commissioners to replace the present method of highway control by Government departments.

The Committee recommend that the Board should be an independent body working under the authority of Parliament, as in the case of the BBC and the Electricity Commissioners, and that it should have authority and financial resources to ensure the development of the whole of the highway system of Great Britain and to make financial grants to highway authorities for this purpose. Further, that an advisory body of this Board, to be known as the Board of Scientific Research, should be set up to study means of securing the safe and efficient movement of all road users, including, of course, pedestrians.

The Committee condemn the policy of trying to adapt the old

roads to new needs, which they regard as wasteful and expensive, and they add: "It is beyond question that the Roads Department of the Ministry of War Transport, however willing, subservient as it is to detailed Treasury control, has not the means or the power to accomplish the work which is so vital and essential to national development."

The CN agrees that our road system presents a formidable problem, to which a solution must be found, and without delay, chiefly because human lives are at stake.

Nevertheless, we hold that any body of experts should work in subordination to the Government departments concerned. Otherwise democratic government is imperilled. Besides, transport involves not only roads but railways, air transport, canals, and seaborne traffic. Roads must be co-ordinated with other transport systems to form a comprehensive whole.

Let Us Subsidise Science

SCIENTIFIC research in the US should be organised and paid for by the Government on a really big scale. This excellent suggestion has been made by Dr Vannevar Bush, director of the US Office of Scientific Research and Development, in a report which President Roosevelt asked him to prepare last November.

Dr Bush wants the American Government to establish a National Research Foundation which would spend over £8,000,000 a year on providing free scholarships for 24,000 undergraduates—young students from the schools—and 900 graduate students who wish to continue research.

Dr Bush thinks this new army of students should carry out research in subjects of such vital interest to the American nation—and any other—as agriculture, housing, public health, and medicine.

"Science has been in the wings," he says. "It should be

brought to the centre of the stage."

He also wants American science students to give their attention to the development of scientific methods of warfare, for, as the CN pointed out not long ago, however repugnant this study may be to peace-loving peoples, it is an essential one if civilisation is not to be overthrown by some future, unscrupulous aggressor using scientific weapons.

The doctor's suggestions are of immediate importance not only to America but to all nations, for in the modern world no nation can prosper that does not put scientific research in the forefront of its activities. We in Britain should also subsidise heavily the study of science and scientific research, and the proposal of the British Association last year to spend £25,000,000 on extending and modernising Britain's universities should be among the foremost of our tasks in post-war reconstruction.

FATHER OF THE U.S. NAVY

FUTURE christenings at the little Scottish village of Kirkbean, on the Solway Firth, will be conducted at a font newly dedicated to the memory of a once very formidable enemy of Great Britain.

That enemy was John Paul Jones, born in this parish, son of a labourer, who, emigrating in 1775 to America, then still an English colony, took arms against us, and carved out at our expense a naval career of sensational daring.

Americans call him the Father of the American Navy, and the new font in the little church at Kirkbean, where John was christened in 1747, is the gift of the officers and men of the United States Navy now stationed in Britain.

Jones began his seafaring career at 12, serving on little ships plying between Whitehaven and America, and later was for five years in command of vessels engaged in the slave trade. Jones settled in America, and when the war with Britain broke out he was given a command in the navy operating against us.

Crossing the Atlantic he showed masterly seamanship, with daring of the highest order. An exploit in Belfast Bay during a gale against the Drake, a British sloop of war that he sought to capture, ranks high in the records of maritime adventure. Sailing next to Whitehaven, his "home port," he spiked the guns of the fort, captured the sleeping garrison, and sought to set fire to the 300 ships at anchor in the harbour. Then, coming to combat with his Belfast adversary, this time he caused the Drake to strike her flag.

Next he essayed the abduction of the Earl of Selkirk from his Scottish home. The earl was

absent, and against his orders his crew carried off property which Jones afterwards bought back at his own expense and returned to Lady Selkirk.

Later Jones sailed with a convoy of American ships flying the French flag, and proceeded audaciously up the Forth intent on the sack of Leith and Edinburgh, a feat thwarted, not by land defence, but by a gale that blew his squadron out to sea. Soon afterwards he fell in with a British convoy protected by two warships. These were both sunk by Jones's ships, his own victim, the Serapis, being his superior in size, armament, and number of men. During the last phase of the American War of Independence Jones served on a ship belonging to America's ally France.

Two years after the end of the war Jones went to St Petersburg, where the Empress Catherine made him a Rear-Admiral of the Russian Navy. Nothing happened enabling him to enhance his reputation, so he returned to France, where he unsuccessfully sought to join the Swedish Navy. Disease, the product of stress and hardship, brought his end in Paris, where he died in 1792, aged only 45.

Without naval training, John Paul Jones was a great seaman, with courage matching his daring originality. For half his life he was a bitter enemy of his native land, and had he been caught he must have been executed as a traitor. But today only his audacious valour is remembered, that and the example he set the seamen of America.

Manchester's Plan

RECONSTRUCTION plans for our great cities are proceeding apace. Manchester, cradle of so much of our industry, has a fifty-year plan on exhibition which may well serve as a model for others. It has been prepared by Mr R. Nicholas, the city surveyor and engineer.

All who have visited Manchester agree that its many mean streets are unworthy of the great city that it is. It is true that Manchester has some beautiful buildings—John Rylands Library, the new Central Library, and the City Art Gallery, for instance—but they need a nobler setting; and that is one of the objectives of the Manchester plan.

The question of transport has received due attention. The plan provides for broad carriage-ways, with green islands to divide traffic, and plenty of room for pedestrians. A new main railway station, near the junction of Manchester and Salford, is proposed, to be called Trinity Station. From here there would be a network of electrified lines serving the suburbs of Manchester. An underground railway is also contemplated, and a City Circle Road is planned to relieve the central area of Manchester of all through traffic.

PROGRESS IN VENEZUELA

THE South American republic of Venezuela has made great strides in the education and welfare of her children.

In 1933 there were 2000 primary schools in that country, educating 112,500 children. By 1940 the number had increased to 5000, with 250,000 pupils.

Progress is reported also in the care of health. New hospitals have been built, and the problems of child welfare and control of disease have been tackled with vigour.

New rich oil deposits have been found there and are being worked, as the C.N. has told. Venezuela, which produces also coffee, cocoa, sugar, cotton, and maize, and has considerable mineral resources, is evidently keeping pace with her prosperity.

HOME MENAGERIE

A New York boy, aged 16, who keeps a skunk in his bedroom, an alligator in the bath, as well as three dogs and some white mice, has not been allowed by a judge to keep a lion cub which he bought, without his parents' consent, from the Central Park Zoo for £6 10s.

Encouraging Indian Science

THE cause of scientific research in India has received a welcome fillip through the splendid offer by Imperial Chemical Industries of a number of research fellowships for the encouragement of Indians in chemistry, physics, and biology, to be held at Indian universities and institutions.

On behalf of the I.C.I., Lord McGowan has written to the president of the National Institute of Sciences in India stating that his firm thought there could be

UNRRA'S GREAT WORK

THIS week the Council of Unrra (United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief Association) is holding the third session of its history at the L.C.C. County Hall, Westminster, and we shall realise more than ever the vastness of the task undertaken by this great international organisation for alleviating human suffering caused by the war.

The leaders of the United Nations foresaw the chaos and suffering that would be found in territories liberated from the enemy, and in November, 1943, they created Unrra, with 44 nations pledging themselves to help bring relief to those rendered destitute by war and to re-establish the dispossessed millions in a secure livelihood.

Unrra got to work at once and its men and women penetrated into stricken countries as the enemy was driven out. Its immediate task was to organise the flow of such vital supplies as food, medicine, clothing, and even while the war with Germany was still on supplies were sent to devastated countries, including the war-torn areas of France and Belgium. By the end of June this year Unrra had sent £75,000,000 worth of supplies to Greece, Italy, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugo-Slavia, China, Albania, and to Unrra refugee camps.

The nations receiving these supplies are divided into two categories, first, those so stricken by war that they cannot pay in foreign currency for the goods supplied, and second, those who can afford to pay. In the first category are Greece, Yugo-Slavia, Czechoslovakia, and Poland; and Unrra has been concentrating on getting supplies to these prostrate peoples who have given and lost all in the struggle for Freedom. Supplies sent to Italy have been for mothers, children, and the sick.

Soviet Russia has also requested about £175,000,000 worth of supplies from Unrra. Russia, as a country deeply devastated by the Germans, has not been expected to pay anything towards Unrra's operating expenses, but has agreed to pay 10 per cent of the organisation's administrative expenses. The Soviet Government's request for help will be examined on its merits by Unrra and if it is considered that Russia is unable financially to provide for her relief needs, supplies will be sent on the same terms as those sent to other war-blasted lands.

The transporting of supplies is one of Europe's greatest problems today, and Unrra not long ago purchased 25,000 vehicles to help supplies.

Unrra workers are also in Germany helping to deal with the millions of "displaced persons"—slave workers dragged from their homes to work for Germany and left stranded

there. By the end of the summer Unrra will have entirely taken over the task of caring for these unfortunate people who will by then probably number between 500,000 and 1,000,000, and it is expected that 450 teams, each consisting of 13 specialists, will undertake this work.

Perhaps the biggest job facing Unrra is in China, where it is estimated that supplies costing something like £600,000,000 will have to be imported as soon as possible to relieve hunger, prevent epidemics, and re-establish the homeless. Of this sum China intends to provide 63 per cent, but she is looking to Unrra for help in obtaining the remainder. In China, too, there is a displaced person problem, exceeding even that of Europe.

Unrra's task is colossal, but the United Nations will not flinch from it, for, as Mr Herbert Lehman, Director-General of Unrra, said, to abandon the people who through years of war and oppression kept alive their hope and cherished their love of liberty "would be a truly monstrous folly, a catastrophic abandonment of those principles which underlie everything we cherish of civilisation and humanity."



ALLENBURYS makes proud mothers

Pride in baby's development and steady progress is a natural result of using Allenburys Foods. They provide the best alternative to natural feeding, being made from fresh full-cream milk suitably enriched for building strong bones and healthy teeth.

Digestibility is assured by the Humanising process used in manufacture. Every mother or mother-to-be is invited to send for a Practical Book on Baby Care, enclosing 2d. in stamps to Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, E.2.

Allenburys

FOODS FOR INFANTS

Famous for drawing!

For over a century Gillott's have made the finest quality and the widest range of drawing pens in the world... the favourites of famous artists. At present supplies may be limited, but the excellence persists.

By appointment to the late King George V

Gillott's Pens

JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS LTD. VICTORIA WORKS, BIRMINGHAM 1

ROUND THE WORLD WITH BSA

No. 13

NYASALAND

Much fierce fighting took place in Nyasaland before it became a British Protectorate in 1892. As recently as 1915 there was a rising of natives led by one of their number, John Chelembwe, who built a church and from his pulpit incited the natives to revolt. They murdered many white men, among whom was one named Livingstone, a descendant of David Livingstone who discovered Lake Nyasa in 1859. Before taking to his heels and being shot by a native policeman, Chelembwe preached one more sermon—with the severed head of Livingstone displayed on the pulpit!

The Nyasaland of 1945 is a contented country whose people appreciate the blessings of civilisation, among which B.S.A. bicycles take a high place. During the war in Europe, B.S.A. Bicycles were as scarce in Nyasaland as in Britain. But very soon now they will be available for everyone—which, of course, includes you. So keep in touch with your B.S.A. dealer!



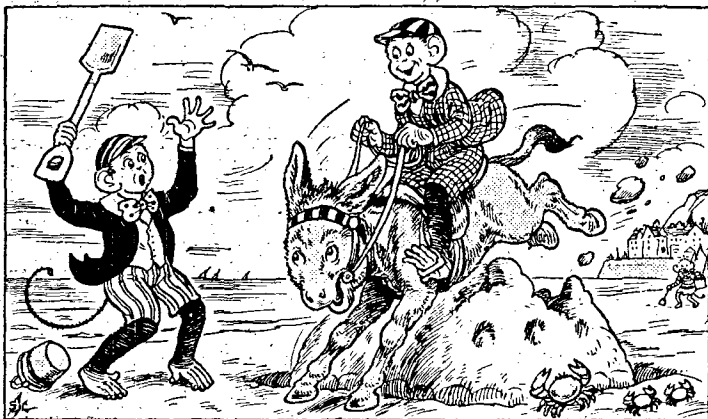
BSA

THE BICYCLE YOU CAN'T BEAT!

B.S.A. Cycles Ltd., Birmingham, 11.

THE BRAN TUB

Jacko's Giant Sandcastle



It was the first day of the Jacko family's seaside holiday and Jacko was intent on building a giant sandcastle—the biggest ever seen on the sands. Suddenly, along came Chimp on a donkey. "Stand aside and watch me, Jacko!" he yelled. "This donkey's the best jumper on the beach, he'll clear your sandcastle easily!" And clear it the donkey did, all the sandcastle's top storey—much to the builder's disgust.

NOT POACHING

"You can't fish here," said the owner, "this lake is private property. I stocked it myself." "What with?" asked the fisher. "Trout," was the reply. "That's all right—I'm fishing for pike."

Tongue Twister

REPEAT six times: Nap's knapsack strap.

A Catch Word

REMARK to a friend that you will give him a sentence of seven simple one-syllable words which cannot be written down in seven words.

Even when you say the sentence is *You can write (to, too, two) in three ways*, he will probably think you are joking until he takes pencil and paper and sees that it cannot be done.

Helen lives every moment

Playtime is never dull while Helen sets the pace. She is a favourite at school, joyously carefree . . . alert . . . alive!

Helen is "a picture of health," says Mother, who has always made it a simple rule to give her a dose of 'California Syrup of Figs' when biliousness or constipation have shown the need. 'California Syrup of Figs' is ideal for children. It is the laxative they like. It quickly regulates the system.



"California Syrup of Figs"



Sharp's SPECIALISE IN TOFFEE.

"I specialise in Sharp's Toffee"

SHARP'S THE WORD FOR TOFFEE

SPOKEN FRENCH

FRENCH Professor: Ah, yes, mademoiselle, you speak ze French wizout ze least accent.

English girl (delightedly): Do I really?

French Professor (hurriedly): Zat ees, wizout ze least French accent!

The Peculiar Ju-Ju

A PECULIAR bird is the Ju-Ju, his feathers are heavy as lead. His bill is curled round like a corkscrew, both wings grow on top of his head.

He lives upon sawdust and treacle, while the song of this wonderful bird resembles the sound of a road drill, it's never forgotten once heard.

But the strangest of all this bird's features, is his manner of ranging the skies; For the Ju-Ju he always flies backwards, to keep the dust out of his eyes.

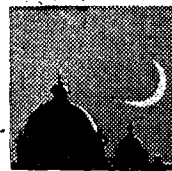
Andersen and Dickens

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN, the great Danish storyteller, who died in Copenhagen early in August, 1875, at the age of seventy, spent all his life writing, his ambition being to become a great novelist or poet. But his fame depends on his delightful fairy stories, known and loved all over the world.

When Andersen made his first visit to England in June, 1847, Charles Dickens saw him off from Ramsgate.

Other Worlds

IN the morning Venus and Saturn are in the east, and Mars is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 9.30 p.m. BST on Sunday, August 12.



FACTS ABOUT COLOMBIA

A REPUBLIC in the north-west of South America adjoining Panama, with a coastline on both the Pacific and the Atlantic. The northern ranges of the Andes mountains known here as the Cordilleras, run through the Eastern coastal districts; plains cover the Western inland areas. The highest mountain is Cocui, 19,300 feet. The climate is temperate in the most thickly populated mountain regions, and hot on the plains. The equator runs through the south of the country, which has a population of 9,523,200. The capital city, Bogota, population 395,300, is 8703 feet above sea-level.

Of the people about one-fifth are of pure Spanish descent, remainder, mixed Spanish and Indian. Spanish is the language. Railways and roads are limited owing to mountains, but the most important river, the Magdalena, is navigable for 900 miles. Chief seaports are Buenaventura on the Pacific, and Barranquilla on the Atlantic.

The chief products are mild coffee (crops of which are gathered all the year round), gold, petroleum and bananas. Rubber trees grow wild, and their cultivation has begun. Emerald mines have been worked for centuries.

Children's Hour

BBC broadcasts from Wednesday, August 8, to Tuesday, August 14.

WEDNESDAY, 5.15 Cruise of the Toytown Belle (Part 2). 5.50 Letters in the Sand—by L. Sargent.

THURSDAY, 5.15 The Kirkin-tilloch Children's Choir; followed by The Bird of Good Luck—a story. For North Region only. 5.15 The Fishing Competition on the Dove, a Derbyshire story; followed by Newton Heath Manchester Boys' Brass Band, and piano solos; and Can you Swim?

FRIDAY, 5.15 A Flight Over London—with Uncle Mac in an aircraft of Transport Command.

For North Region only. 5.15 A Nursery Sing Song with Doris, Muriel, Mabel, and Nan; followed by a fairy story told by Nan; and What's Happening in the North.

For Scottish Home Service only. 5.15 Through the Magic Mirror, first of a new series of stories. 5.50 Border Songs.

SATURDAY, 5.15 Tammy Troot's Circus, read by Willie Joss; followed by a variety entertainment.

SUNDAY, 5.15 Caesar came to Britain, by L. du Garde Peach.

MONDAY, 5.15 Pioneering in Australia—the first of a series; followed by Folk Songs sung by Constance Carrodus. 5.45 A visit to Cowleaze Farm.

For North Region only. 5.15 The Week's Programmes; followed by Five Children and It, or The Psalmist by E. Nesbit—The First Wish.

For Scottish Home Service only. 5.15 Scottish Nursery Rhymes; competition results; and a story.

TUESDAY, 5.15 The Choir of St John's Grammar School, Hamilton; and a story.

For North Region only. 5.15 A Nursery Sing Song; followed by News from Chester Zoo; and some Northern Young Artists.

For Welsh Home Service only. 5.15 A play in Welsh.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Mysterious Nightjar. "Churr, churr, churr." The strange cry was repeated at intervals, occasionally followed by a sharp crack.

"What is it?" whispered Don uneasily, peering in the direction of the shadowy woods.

"It is a Nightjar," answered Farmer Gray. "As the name indicates, it is a bird of the night, and is more often heard than seen. The cracking noise is made by the bird stretching its long wings, and bringing them quickly together. It has another odd habit of sitting along a branch, never across it as most birds do. The Nightjar possesses such a wide beak, or gape, that when opened, its head appears cut in two."

TOSS—GO!

THERE was a young fellow of Moscow Who simply could not make his boss go.

The wicked old hack Threw him over its back, And smiled as it said, "See the boss go!"

Catch Question

Bob's uncle was three times as old as Bob, but would one day be only twice as old. What were their ages? *Bob 15, uncle 45*

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

The Same Both Ways 1881

A Fencing Problem Four acres

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THE BRITISH BISCUIT INDUSTRY

IS READY TO

WELCOME BACK

ITS

WORKERS